Abstract Submitted to the International Conference on Strongly Correlated Electron Systems University of Michigan, Ann Arbor August 6-10, 2001

Unusual behaviors in heavy Fermion semimetal CeRu₄Sb₁₂

Keisuke Abe, Takahiro Namiki, Tatsuma D. Matsuda, Takahiro Namiki, Hitoshi Sugawara, Yuji Aoki, Hideyuki Sato
Dept. of Physics, Tokyo Metropolitan University, Minami-Ohsawa 1-1, Hachioji-shi, Tokyo 192-0397, Japan

The filled-skutterudite compounds (RETr₄Pn₁₂: RE= rare earth, Tr= Fe, Ru, Os, and P= pnictogen) have attracted much attention from the viewpoints of both the novel physical properties and their potential as thermoelectric materials for next generation. CeRu₄Sb₁₂ is a unique system exhibiting metallic conductivity in contrast with the other Ce-skutterudites which show semi-conducting behaviors predicted from the band structure calculation. Experimentally, non-Fermi-liquid (NFL) behavior has been reported in the electrical resistivity below a few Kelvin, though no clear explanation has been made.

We report extensive transport and magnetic studies on high quality $RERu_4Sb_{12}$ single crystals for RE=La, Ce, Pr and Nd. For $CeRu_4Sb_{12}$, we have succeeded in observing Shubnikov-de Haas oscillations both in the magnetoresistance and Hall effect. Small semimetallic Fermi surface (FS) has been inferred in contrast with the large FS for RE=La and Pr, suggesting a large c-f hybridization. The largely enhanced effective mass, more than 5 times the rest electron mass for such small FS, also suggests highly correlated electrons. At low temperatures below 3 K, both the thermoelectric power and Hall effect exhibit sharp anomalies correlated with the NFL. Those anomalies are suppressed by the magnetic field, reflecting magnetic origin.